PrimaLuna© ProLogue Eight

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ProLogue Eight

Vacuum Tube CD Player

Serial Number: _____

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THANK YOU!

We would like to thank you for choosing our PrimaLuna ProLogue Eight vacuum tube CD player as an important part of your music system. It is the final piece in PrimaLuna's critically-acclaimed introductory line of affordable, high-quality tube products. The designers and builders of the PrimaLuna equipment all have a long history in high-end audio. We feel that it is time to offer a range of affordable audio instruments that can easily compete with today's most expensive brands. We firmly believe that you will be hard-pressed to find another product on the market that meets or exceeds the level of quality you'll find in this, or any other PrimaLuna product.

The PrimaLuna ProLogue Eight CD Player features:

- SuperTubeClock© ultra-low jitter clocking device. *A PrimaLuna exclusive*.
- A heavy-gauge steel, fully-vented chassis, with a five-coat, high-gloss, automotive finish. Each coat is hand-rubbed and polished
- Premium parts: separate toroidal transformers for left and right channel power supply; ceramic tube sockets; Nichicon, Solen and Swellong capacitors; gold-plated, panel mounted output jacks.
- Heavy-gauge, anodized, brushed aluminium remote. Controls all important CD operations.
- Dual-mono, zero-feedback output stage using one 12AX7 and one 12AU7 per channel.
- Vacuum tube rectified power supply adapted from the award-winning ProLogue Three preamp that incorporates eleven separate power supply regulation circuits.
- State-of-the-art Burr Brown SRC4192 upsampler and Burr Brown PCM 1792 DACs.
- Custom designed isolation transformers separate the analog and digital devices for decreased signal degradation and improved sonics.
- One pair RCA analog outputs. One coaxial and one optical digital output.
- SoftStart™ circuit for extended life of sensitive components, plus a reduced chance of tube failure from thermal shock.

Premium tubes are available from us and other parties if you wish to upgrade. In the USA, Upscale Audio's inventory of New Old Stock tubes is the largest you can find. Elsewhere, independent suppliers can assist you to make the best choice.

We hope that the PrimaLuna ProLogue Eight CD Player will make you want to follow our next steps in expanding this new range of products. If you have any questions or comments, don't hesitate to contact us. You can also share your thoughts with others at www.audioreview.com or other review sites. On the www.primaluna.nl website you will find links to these and others. We keep our prices low by relying on word-of-mouth and customer feedback…. and we would appreciate hearing what you have to say about our product. If you need service during or after the warranty period, contact us.

Thanks again for your support!

Herman van den Dungen
DUROB AUDIO BV

Specifications

Output Level	2V±3dB
Frequency Response	20Hz - 20kHz +/- 0.5dB
Distortion And Noise	<-70dB
S/N Ratio	≥96dB
Dynamic Range	120dB
Channel Separation	90dB (1kHz)
Digital Output	S/PDIF (AES3id)
Power Consumption	50W
Net Weight	25.4 lbs / 11.5 kg
Shipping Weight	30.0 lbs / 13.6 kg
Dimension	15.5” x 11” x 7.5” 395 mm x 280 mm x 190 mm (L x W x H)
Shipping Dimensions	18.3” x 15” x 12” 465 mm x 380 mm x 305 mm (L x W x H)
Analog Output	1 pair RCA
Digital Outputs	1 piece RCA; 1 piece Optical
Tube Complement	2 x 5AR4 2 x 12AX7 2 x 12AU7

Warning!

To prevent serious injury, electrical shock or fire:

Always turn power off and disconnect power cord from unit and power source before doing any work on unit. Do not operate with bottom plate removed. Always disconnect all cable connections to and from preamplifier before changing fuses and/or tubes.
Do not replace fuses with any fuse other than the same type and rating as used by the factory. Do not replace tubes without reading instructions. Do not replace fuses or tubes if you have any doubt about your ability to do so. We accept no responsibility for any personal or material damage due to incompetent use or users.

Package Contents

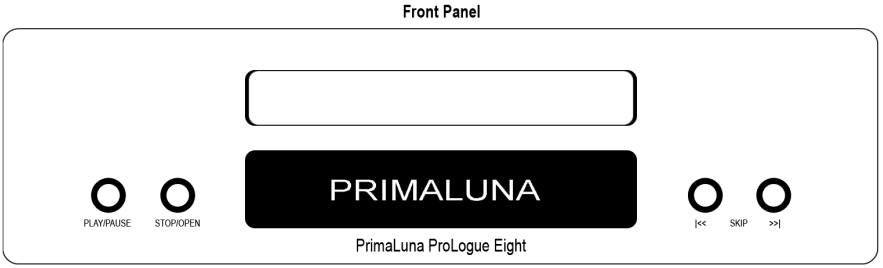
ProLogue Eight CD Player	1
Remote Control	1
Power Cord	1
White Gloves	1 pair
Tube Complement	2 x 5AR4 2 x 12AX7 2 x 12AU7
Main Fuse	1 x 2Amp slow blow 5 x 20mm for 100-120VAC or 1 x 1Amp slow blow 5 x 20mm for 200-240VAC

Initial Setup

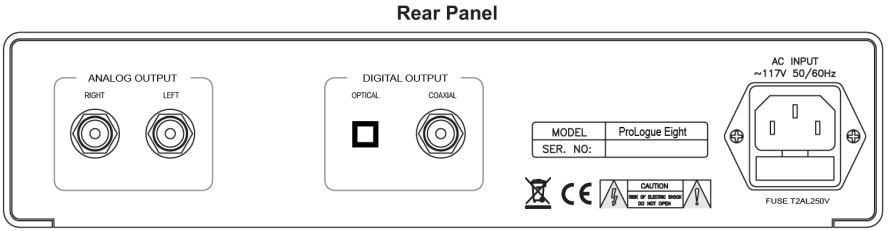
- Carefully remove the ProLogue Eight from its packaging.
- Use the white gloves to prevent fingerprint smudges.
- Remove the tube cage by carefully pulling it up and away from the CD player.
- Check that each tube is firmly seated in its socket. Use gloves.
- Replace cage back in its place if desired.
- Ensure that the power switch is off (down).
- Connect output of CD player with input of pre amplifier or integrated amplifier.
- Plug the power cord into the CD player, then into the wall socket.
- Switch the CD player on; the output will be muted for 30 seconds while the tubes warm up.
- Switch the amplification on after the mute of the CD player is released.

The tubes will be warmed up and ready to use in two to three minutes. And like all components, the ProLogue Eight CD Player takes approximately 100 hours to fully break-in. However, it is not necessary to have a CD playing to break in the player—simply leave the unit powered up.

Controls and Hook-Up



The front panel of the PrimaLuna models is made from machined aluminium, finished to complement the blue metallic chassis. The following functions are controlled with the 4 silver buttons on the front: play/pause; stop/open; next/previous; repeat current/repeat all (read further down the manual for special instructions).



Looking at the rear panel, you'll note you have three outputs: one set of stereo analog outputs; two digital outputs—one coaxial and one optical."

General Operation

Turning the unit on/off

Turn on the Power Switch (POWER) on the left side, the unit will first close the disc tray, the display will show PRIMALUNA PL8 CDP, and the unit will perform a self-check. When the display shows READING, the self-check has been completed and the unit is ready to read the disc.

Playback

- Press the Stop/Open Button on the front panel or the remote control to open the disc tray. Place the compact disc in the disc tray label-side up.
- Press the Stop/Open Button on the front panel or the remote control to close the tray.
-
- Once the display indicates the number of tracks on the disc and the total time of the disc, press the Play/Pause Button on the front panel or the remote control to start playback. If the disc tray is open when you press the Play/Pause Button, it will close automatically and start playing.

Normally, the disc will start playing with track 1. However, you can select a different track by pressing the Skip Buttons.

Track Search

- During playback or in STOP mode, you can select a track to play by pressing the Skip Buttons.
- Press the Forward Skip Button to advance to the beginning of the next track. If the current track is the last one, pressing this button will return the player to track 1.
- Press the Backward Skip Button to reverse to the beginning of the previous track. If the current track is the first one, press this button to reverse to the beginning of the last track.

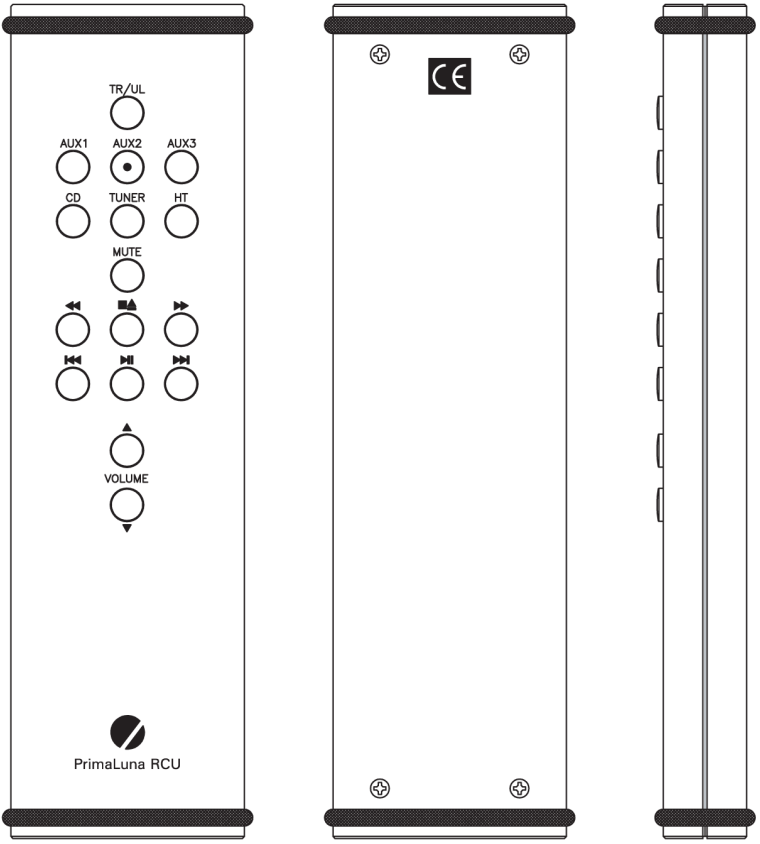
Pause

During playback, press the Play/Pause Button on the front panel or the remote control to temporarily pause playback.

Press the Play/Pause Button again to resume playback
When the player is in PAUSE mode, the disc motor is still spinning. Since leaving the player in this condition can shorten the lifetime of the motor, do not leave the player in PAUSE mode for a long period of time.

In PAUSE mode, after advancing or reversing to the next track, the unit will still be paused.

The Remote



The functions of the PrimaLuna Remote Control are self-explanatory. The remote controls all the basic CD player functions outlined above and on the next page. It will also control source selection, volume, and triode/ultralinear switching on the DiaLogue Series integrated amplifiers.

The PrimaLuna Remote Control has two high quality silicon rings on each end to protect against damage of the remote control itself as well as your furniture. These rings can be easily removed in case batteries have to be replaced or if you plain just don't like them.

In the event your remote control does not function, please check batteries and if necessary, replace with new (1.5V AAA-size). To access the battery-compartment, remove the rubber rings and unscrew the back plate. If the remote still does not function, contact your dealer for further assistance.

Stop and/or Open

During playback or in PAUSE mode, press the Stop/Open Button on the front panel or the remote control to stop a disc that is being played or paused.

After stopping playback, you may open the disc tray by pressing the Stop/Open Button a second time.

Fast Search (Remote only)

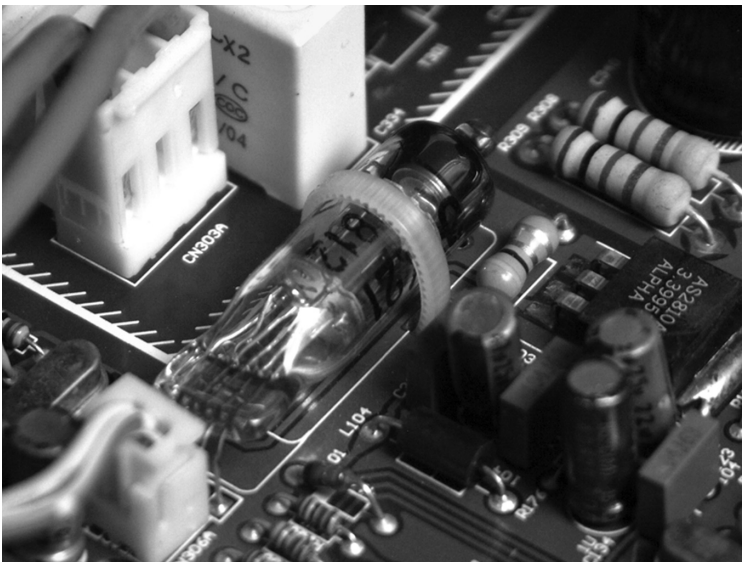
- Hold the Scan Forward or Backward button depressed, playback advances or reverses at high speed.
- Hold Scan Forward button depressed for fast- forward operation.
- Hold Scan Backward button depressed for fast-reverse operation.
- Release the Scan Buttons to start playback at normal speed.

Repeat (Front Panel only)

This function allows you to repeat the current track, or the entire disc continuously.

- During playback, press and hold the Skip Forward Button for about 2 seconds. The display will show “Repeat 1”.
- Press and hold the Skip Forward Button again for about 2 seconds to repeat the entire disc. The display will now show “Repeat ALL ”.
- Press and hold the Skip Forward Button a third time for about 2 seconds to cancel the Repeat function.

The SuperTubeClock



This is where the magic happens... the SuperTjoebClock replaces the solid state oscillator normally found in a CD player's digital clocking device with a mini triode vacuum tube. When you reclock a cd-drive, any noise that is generated here appears unfiltered and unattenuated at the input of the decoder chip in the cd-player and injects jitter, which from then on is an undistinguishable part of the digital audio stream. No amount of cleaning will ever be able to remove this noise once it reaches this point; it has become part of the audio signal. There is a distinctive loss of dynamics, tonal purity, intertransient silence, and sense of timing. We call this "noise modulation."

When the clock is used to clock the DAC chip, a similar situation occurs as described above: the noise appears at the location where the digital audio stream is converted to successive steps in a staircase wave, which represents the analog audio signal. Each step has to be EXACTLY 1/441000th, 1/96000th, 1/176400th, or 1/192000th (depending on whether there's oversampling or upsampling, CD or DVD). The injected noise introduces a deviation in time which is the exact replica of that noise. This means that the audio signal at the outputs of the DAC chip has the noise riding on it, again as an inherent part of the signal. No amount of filtering will remove the noise once it reaches this step. Again we experience that smear and detail masking, with that distinctive loss of dynamics, tonal purity, intertransient silence, and sense of timing.

By replacing the standard solid state oscillator with a tube, we have significantly lowered the amount of jitter and noise, resulting in superior detail retreival. This in turn yields superior detail and dynamics from top to bottom, and improved overrall musicality.

Tube Information

The 12AX7, 12AU7 and 5AR4 tubes will have a life of about 10,000 hours.

Here are some tips on using tubes:

Do not use treatments on tube pins or in sockets.

If you decide to experiment with other types of tubes, it is critical that you first turn the power off to the CD player, then turn the volume down completely on your pre-amp AND also switch your pre-amp to a different source. We recommend you not swap tubes in and out repeatedly because every time you insert a tube, you increase the chance of loosening the tube sockets. It's okay to have fun, and we support that, but don't go crazy and swap tubes in and out twenty times a day.

The ProLogue Eight has a warm-up time of just a few minutes. Although it is not wise to leave tube components on 24 hours a day, you may leave this player on if you choose, but it will result in more frequent tube replacement. Through experimentation, come to a conclusion that fits comfortably with your lifestyle.

Break-in yields improvements. So, when your CD player is new, or when you re-tube it, it may take a little time to settle in. There is however no fixed "time rule" for break-in.

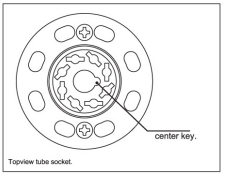
***IMPORTANT!** Please note that tubes can vary electrically, and by plugging in the wrong type of tube (i.e. 6922 for a 12AX7) you can damage the unit and void your warranty.

Common replacements:

12AX7: ECC83, ECC803S, E83CC, 7025, CV4004. You can also use a 5751, but please note that the 5751 is a lower gain tube than a 12AX7 and the sound will be altered.

12AU7: ECC82, ECC802S, E82CC, 5814, 6189, CV4003

5AR4: GZ34, CV1377 are equivalent. 5V4G, 5T4, and 5Y3 will also function fine with small sonic changes that you may want to experiment with. Do not use other types as damage may occur.



Some tubes and tube sockets (in this case, the 5AR4/rectifier) have a center "key" which must align. If you force it when misaligned, you will damage important and expensive parts of your CD player.

Fuse Protection

A note on fuses: NEVER wrap fuses in aluminium foil as a stop-gap to buying new ones. Fuses are safety valves. They should always be replaced with the exact same value and type.

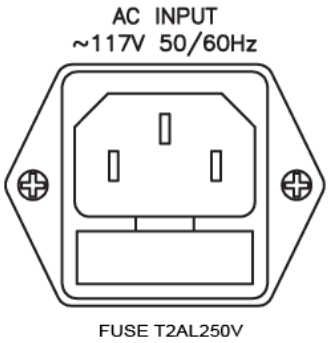
NEVER attempt to check or replace a fuse while the CD player is plugged in. Turn off the power amp first and after that the preamplifier and then the CD player. Unplug all speakers, components and AC cords before continuing. Wait 10 minutes to let tubes cool down and the circuit to fully discharge.

Mains Fuse:

The mains fuse is located on the rear of the CD player, just below the power cord socket (see picture on right).

The fuse rating is 2 Amp slow blow 5 x 20mm for 100-120VAC and 1 Amp slow blow 5 x 20mm for 200-240VAC.

Replace with the same type and value fuse only!
The fuse holder can be snapped out using a small slotted flat-head screwdriver.



Troubleshooting

No output. Power is on, but power LED is off and tubes do not light up.
Mains fuse is out. Replace fuse per instructions on page 9.

No output. Power LED is on and tubes do light up normally.
The CD player stays muted for 30 seconds when powered on. Check to make sure all interconnects are securely connected. If all seems to be OK check other equipment in use.

Remote control does not respond.
Batteries are low and have to be replaced. Strong (sun)light may also disturb the remote control signal. Make sure there are obstacles between remote control and CD player.

Noise coming from one channel.
Noisy tube. First swap the 12AX7 tubes left to right. If noise follows tube swap, than you have found the problem tube. If noise does not follow, swap the 12AU7 tubes left to right. If noise still persists, contact your dealer.

Hum coming from one channel.
Check 5AR4 tubes to make sure they are seated properly. Swap L to R , If hum follows tube then replace faulty tube.

Noise/distortion coming from both channels.
Tubes may be in need of replacement. Read page 9 for tube basics and replacement options.

Please also check the other equipment in use for failure or improper connections.

If you try these possible solutions and problems persist, contact your local distributor for further investigation.

Tube Selection

While matched tubes are not a requirement, they're still recommended if you want to get superior results. You can get the very best in replacement tubes as well as rare vintage NOS (New Old Stock) from us and other parties if you wish to upgrade. In the USA, Upscale Audio's inventory of New Old Stock tubes is the largest you can find. Elsewhere, independent suppliers can assist you in making the best choice

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Herman van den Dungen: PrimaLuna in Italian language is “First Moon”. My grandfather was the first “Herman”. My grandmother, an aristocratic lady in a small Dutch village, had a special name for her husband: “Maantje”, which means Little Moon (which is now also the name of our small dog), van den Dungen. The people in the village adopted that name, and having a strong accent, they soon called him “Maontje” van den Dungen. My father’s first name was Cor, but in the village it was of course “Cor from Maontje van den Dungen”. I was of course “Herman from Cor from Maontje van den Dungen” …… etc. That’s why I thought of First Moon as a brandname and that’s why the logo is how it is ……

Loris Arrigucci: PrimaLuna believe it or not ... I discovered a small town located 50Km north of Milano called Primaluna!!! Please get yourself a map from Italy. You’ll find Primaluna town near the upper-right corner. It is located 50Km north of Milano near the Lake of Como. This should eliminate every doubt regarding “italian” origin of Primaluna name. I’ve read the “history” section of the Primaluna village web site and found the following (literally translated):

One probable interpretation of the name of the village comes from latin “Primum Lumen”, which means “First Light” of Christianism, since the very first evidence of Christianism in this region dates 495 Annus Domini. “First Light” translates into “Prima Luce” in Italian and this seems very interesting to me: PrimaLuce (First-Light) is the first light that we, hi-fi lovers with small budgets, can see in this world of darkness populated by way too expensive esoteric gears

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Please contact us for registering your PrimaLuna ProLogue Eight CD Player. We will keep you updated of upgrades or any other information related to your amplifier. If you wish to comment on your PrimaLuna ProLogue Eight CD player, please do. If you want to send us a review of your experience with the player, you are more than welcome to. If you have any technical questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us. We thank you upfront for your time and attention.

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